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DECLARATION OF VENKATESH R. IYER
UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

I, Venkatesh R. Iyer, hereby declare unequivocally the following:

1. I am a joint inventor of the above-referenced patent application.
2. This patent application relates to the field of network analysis.
3. Independent claims 31, 38, and 45 of this patent application include the term "application verb." Further, all dependent claims 32-37 and 39-44 of this patent application include the term "application verb" by virtue of their dependency from independent claims 31 and 38, respectively.

4. Attached as Exhibit A is a document entitled "Remote Monitoring MIB Extensions for Identifying Application Protocol Verbs." (Hereinafter referred to as "7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT"). As shown on page 1 of the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT, the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT was published on July 17, 2001, prior to the filing date (January 4, 2002) of this patent application, on the website of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT), page 1. The 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT is currently available on the Internet at the URL: <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-rmonmib-appverbs-02>.

5. The IETF is an open standards organization that develops and promotes Internet standards. It includes an international community of network designers, operators, vendors, and researchers concerned with the evolution of the Internet architecture and the smooth operation of the Internet.

6. Attached as Exhibit B is a document entitled "Internet-Drafts" obtained from the Internet at the URL <http://www.ietf.org/ID.html>, and attached as Exhibit C is a document entitled "Guidelines to Authors of Internet-Drafts" obtained from the Internet at URL <http://www.ietf.org/ietf/lid-guidelines.html>. Exhibits B and C contain general information about IETF Internet-Drafts.

7. Briefly, Internet-Drafts are working documents of the IETF, its areas, and its working groups. See Exhibit B, page 1, paragraph 1. Internet-Drafts provide authors with the ability to distribute and solicit comments on

documents they eventually submit for publication as a Request for Comments (RFC). See Exhibit C, pages 1-2, section 2, paragraph 1. RFCs are a series of memoranda describing Internet technologies. RFCs and Internet-Drafts are widely read and used by persons of ordinary skill in the field of computer networking including network analysis to which this patent application pertains.

8. In general, Internet-Drafts can be accessed on the Internet by anyone on the IETF website. For example, the distribution of the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT was unlimited. See Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT), page 1 (“Distribution of this document is unlimited.”).

9. The IETF website was known to and frequently accessed by persons of ordinary skill in the field of computer networking, including network analysis, prior to and as of the filing date of this patent application, January 4, 2002, and continues to be a widely known and frequently accessed website.

10. The 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT defines an “application verb” as:
Application Verb: Also called simply ‘verb’. Refers to one of potentially many protocol operations that are defined by a particular application protocol.

Note that an application verb is not equivalent to an application protocol sub-command or opcode within a packet containing a PDU for the application. An application verb is a transaction type, and may involve several PDU types within the application protocol (e.g., SNMP Get-PDU and Response-PDU). In some applications, a

verb may encompass protocol operations pertaining to more than one protocol entry in the protocol directory (e.g., ftp and ftp-data).

See Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET DRAFT), page 5, section 5.3.

11. The 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT also provides several examples of application verbs for various protocols. See Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT), pages 14-18, section 8. For example, "user", "pass", and "acct" are provided as examples of application verbs for the File Transfer Protocol (FTP) application. See Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET DRAFT), page 14, section 8.1. For another example, see page 17, section 8.4, where "get", "head", and "post" are provided as examples of application verbs for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) application. Exhibit A (7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT), page 17, section 8.4.

12. The definition of the term "application verb" and its examples provided in the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT are consistent with the description of "application verb" provided in the specification of this patent application. For example, page 4, line 10 and page 9, line 1 of the specification mention that "an 'application verb' may include any specific application transaction or transaction type." Also, page 15, line 15 and page 17, lines 2-3 of the specification mention HTTP "get" as an example of an application verb.

13. The 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT was published on July 17, 2001 and expired on January 17, 2002 (Internet-Drafts expire six months after publication). This Internet Draft was preceded by versions published in July

2000 (attached as Exhibit D) and November 2000 (attached as Exhibit E), and followed by versions published in February 2002 and August 2002. The 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT was then incorporated into RFC 3395 entitled "Remote Network Monitoring MIB Protocol Identifier Reference Extensions," published in September 2002, currently available at <ftp://ftp.rfc-editor.org/in-notes/rfc3395.txt>. A copy of RFC 3395 is attached hereto as Exhibit F.

14. RFC 3395 provides a definition and examples of application verb consistent with the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT and the specification of this patent application. See Exhibit F (RFC 3395), page 4, section 2.3. In addition, all previous and subsequent versions of the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT also discuss and provide examples of application verbs consistent with the 7-17-2001 INTERNET-DRAFT and the specification of this patent application. See, for example, Exhibit D, page 5, section 5.3, and Exhibit E, page 5, section 5.3.

15. Therefore, I believe that, as of the filing date (January 4, 2002) of the above-referenced patent application, a person of ordinary skill in the field of network analysis would have known and understood what an "application verb" is.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or

imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code,
and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the
application or any patent issued thereon.

Mar 13th 2008

Date



Venkatesh R. Iyer

Exhibit A

Internet Draft

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17 July 2001

Remote Monitoring MIB Extensions
for Identifying Application Protocol Verbs

<draft-ietf-rmonmib-appverbs-02.txt>

Status of this Memo

This document is an Internet-Draft and is in full conformance with all provisions of Section 10 of RFC2026 [RFC2026].

Internet-Drafts are working documents of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), its areas, and its working groups. Note that other groups may also distribute working documents as Internet-Drafts.

Internet-Drafts are draft documents valid for a maximum of six months and may be updated, replaced, or obsoleted by other documents at any time. It is inappropriate to use Internet-Drafts as reference material or to cite them other than as "work in progress."

The list of current Internet-Drafts can be accessed at
<http://www.ietf.org/ietf/lid-abstracts.txt>

The list of Internet-Draft Shadow Directories can be accessed at
<http://www.ietf.org/shadow.html>.

Distribution of this document is unlimited. Please send comments to the RMONMIB WG mailing list <rmonmib@ietf.org>.

Exhibit A

1. Copyright Notice

Copyright (C) The Internet Society (2001). All Rights Reserved.

2. Abstract

This memo defines an experimental portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it describes the algorithms required to identify protocol operations (verbs) within the protocol encapsulations managed with the Remote Network Monitoring MIB Version 2 [RFC2021].

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4. The SNMP Network Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2571 [RFC2571].
- o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIV1 and described in RFC 1155 [RFC1155], RFC 1212 [RFC1212] and RFC 1215 [RFC1215]. The second version, called SMIV2, is described in RFC 2578 [RFC2578], RFC 2579 [RFC2579] and RFC 2580 [RFC2580].
- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in RFC 1901 [RFC1901] and RFC 1906 [RFC1906]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in RFC 1906 [RFC1906], RFC 2572 [RFC2572] and RFC 2574 [RFC2574].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905

Exhibit A

[RFC1905].

- o A set of fundamental applications described in RFC 2573 [RFC2573] and the view-based access control mechanism described in RFC 2575 [RFC2575].

A more detailed introduction to the current SNMP Management Framework can be found in RFC 2570 [RFC2570].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo does not specify a MIB module.

5. Overview

There is a need for a standardized way of identifying the protocol operations defined for particular application protocols. Different protocol operations can have very different performance characteristics, and it is desirable to collect certain metrics at this level of granularity. This memo defines extensions to the existing protocol identifier structure [RFC2895], and is intended to update, not obsolete, the existing protocol identifier encoding rules.

5.1. Protocol Identifier Framework

The RMON Protocol Identifier (PI) structure [RFC2895] allows for a variable number of layer identifiers. Each layer contributes 4 octets to the protocolDirID OCTET STRING and one octet to the protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING. These two MIB objects comprise the index into the protocolDirTable [RFC2021], and represent a globally unique identifier for a particular protocol encapsulation (or set of encapsulations if the wild-card base layer is used).

5.2. Protocol Identifier Extensions for Application Verbs

The existing RMON protocol identifier architecture requires that an application verb be represented by one additional protocol layer, appended to the protocol identifier for the parent application. Since some application verbs are defined as strings which can exceed 4 octets in length, an integer mapping must be provided for each string. This memo specifies how the verb layer is structured, as well as a verb identifier macro syntax for specification of verb name to integer mappings.

Exhibit A

5.3. Terms

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119. [RFC2119]

This document uses some terms defined in the RMON Protocol Identifier Reference document [RFC2895], and some new terms that need introduction here.

Application Verb

Also called simply 'verb'. Refers to one of potentially many protocol operations that are defined by a particular application protocol.

Note that an application verb is not equivalent to an application protocol sub-command or opcode within a packet containing a PDU for the application. An application verb is a transaction type, and may involve several PDU types within the application protocol (e.g., SNMP Get-PDU and Response-PDU). In some applications, a verb may encompass protocol operations pertaining to more than one protocol entry in the protocol directory (e.g., ftp and ftp-data).

Connect Verb

The special application verb associated with connection or session setup and tear-down traffic, and not attributed to any other verb for the application. This verb is assigned the enumeration value of zero, and the verb 'connect(0)' is implicitly defined for all application protocols.

Parent Application

One of potentially many protocol encapsulations which identifies a particular application protocol. This term refers generically to any or all such encapsulations for a given set of application verbs.

Verb Layer

The portion of the protocol identifier octet string which identifies the application verb.

Verb Set

The group of verbs enumerated for a particular application protocol. The list of verb strings within a particular verb-identifier macro invocation is also called the verb set for that verb identifier.

Exhibit A

5.4. Relationship to the RMON-2 MIB

The RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021] contains the protocolDirTable MIB objects used to identify all protocol encapsulations that can be monitored by a particular RMON agent.

This memo describes how these MIB objects are mapped by an implementation, for entries which identify application verbs. This document does not define any new MIB objects to identify application verbs.

5.5. Relationship to the RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference

The RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference [RFC2895] defines the RMON Protocol Identifier Macro Specification Language, as well as the encoding rules for the ProtocolDirID and protocolDirParameters OCTET STRINGS.

This memo defines extensions to the Protocol Identifier Reference document for the identification of application verb information. It does not obsolete any portion of the Protocol Identifier Reference document.

6. Definitions

6.1. Verb Identifier Macro Format

The following example is meant to introduce the verb-identifier macro. This macro-like construct is used to represent protocol verbs for a specific parent application.

6.1.1. Lexical Conventions

The following keyword is added to the PI language:

VERB-IDENTIFIER

6.1.2. Extended Grammar for the PI Language

The following is the extended BNF notation for the grammar with starting symbol <piFile>, for representing verb identifier macros. Note that only the term <piFile> is actually modified from the definition in [RFC2895]. The <piDefinition> syntax is not reproduced here, since this memo is intended to extend that definition, not replace it.

Exhibit A

Internet Draft

RMON Verb Identifiers

July 2001

```
-- a file containing one or more
-- Protocol Identifier (PI) definitions
<piFile> = [ <piDefinition> | <piVerbDefinition> ]...

-- a PI definition
<piVerbDefinition> =
  <parentProtoName> "VERB-IDENTIFIER"
    "DESCRIPTION" string
    [ "REFERENCE" string ]
    "::-" "{" <verbList> "}"

-- a list of verb identifier string
<verbList> = <verbId> [ <wspace> ", " <wspace> <verbId> ]...

-- a verb identifier string
<verbId> = <verbName> [ <wspace> ] "(" [ <wspace> ]
  <verbEnum> [ <wspace> ] ")" [ <wspace> ]

-- a verb name
<verbName> = lname

-- a verb enumeration
<verbEnum> = <posNum>

-- a positive integer
<posNum> = any integer value greater than zero and
  less than 16,777,216

-- <piDefinition> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- <wspace> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- lname syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
```

6.1.3. Mapping of the Parent Protocol Name

The "parentProtoName" value, called the "parent protocol name" MUST be an ASCII string consisting of 1 to 64 characters. The encoding rules are exactly as specified in section 6.2.4 of [RFC2895], for the mapping of the protocol name field. If a <protoName> and a <parentProtoName> field contain the same value, then they refer to the same protocol.

A protocol identifier macro SHOULD exist in the <piFile> for at least one encapsulation of the parent application protocol, if any verb identifier macros referencing that parent application are present in the

Exhibit A

<piFile>.

6.1.4. Mapping of the DESCRIPTION Clause

The DESCRIPTION clause provides a textual description of the protocol verb set identified by this macro. It SHOULD NOT contain details about items covered by the DECODING and REFERENCE clauses. The DESCRIPTION clause MUST be present in all verb-identifier macro declarations.

6.1.5. Mapping of the REFERENCE Clause

If a publicly available reference document exists for this set of application protocol verbs, it SHOULD be listed here. Typically this will be a URL, otherwise it will be the name and address of the controlling body.

The REFERENCE clause is optional, but SHOULD be implemented if an authoritative reference exists which specifies the application protocol verbs defined in the <verbList> section of this macro.

6.1.6. Mapping of the Verb List Clause

The verb list clause MUST be present, and is used to identify a list of application verb names, and associate a numeric constant with each verb name. At least one verb MUST be specified, and a maximum of 16,777,215 ($2^{24} - 1$) verbs MAY be specified. This enumerated list SHOULD be densely numbered and (i.e. valued from '1' to 'N', where 'N' is the total number of verbs defined in the macro).

6.1.6.1. Mapping of the Verb Name Field

The <verbName> field is case-sensitive, and SHOULD be set to the most appropriate string name for each application verb. If a readable string is defined in an authoritative document, then that string SHOULD be used. If no such string exists, then an appropriate but arbitrary string should be selected for this value.

Verb names MUST be unique for a particular parent application. Note that the special 'connect(0)' verb is implicitly defined for each application protocol. It is possible for an explicit definition of this verb (e.g. 'connect(8)' for http) to exist for a protocol, as well as the implicit 'connect(0)' verb.

Exhibit A

6.1.6.2. Mapping of the Verb Enum Field

The <verbEnum> field MUST be unique for all verbs associated with a particular parent application. This field MUST contain a value between '1' and '16,777,215' inclusive.

6.2. Protocol Directory Requirements

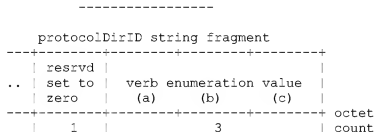
This section defines how the protocolDirTable should be populated for any application verb identified with a verb-identifier macro.

An agent MUST implement all applicable protocolDirTable MIB objects on behalf of each supported application verb.

6.2.1. Mapping of the Verb Layer Numbering Space

The verb layer consists of the 4 octets within the protocolDirID INDEX field which identify a particular application verb.

Figure 1
Verb Layer Format



The first octet is reserved for future use and MUST be set to zero.

The next three octets identify the <verbEnum> field used to enumerate the particular application verb represented by the <verbName> field. This field is a 24-bit unsigned integer, encoded in network byte order.

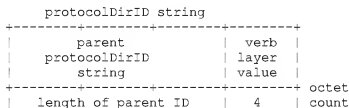
The value zero is reserved to identify the special 'connect(0)' verb. This verb enumeration value (i.e. '0' part of 'connect(0)') MUST NOT be redefined in a verb identifier macro verb list. Note that the verb name 'connect' is not reserved and MAY be redefined in a verb list.

Exhibit A

6.2.2. Mapping of the ProtocolDirID object

The protocolDirID OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirID value for the parent application, appended with the verb's layer identifier value.

Figure 2
ProtocolDirID Format for Verbs



The protocolDirID object is encoded as the protocolDirID value of the parent application, followed by four additional octets representing the verb layer. The verb layer value is encoded as [0.a.b.c] where 'a' is the high order byte, 'b' is the middle order byte, and 'c' is the low order byte of the <verbEnum> field for the specific application verb value. A valid PI verb enumeration will be encoded in the range "0.0.0.0" to "0.255.255.255", where the special value "0.0.0.0" is reserved for the implicitly defined 'connect(0)' verb.

6.2.3. Mapping of the ProtocolDirParameters object

The protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirParameters value for the parent application, appended with one octet containing the value zero.

6.2.4. Mapping of the ProtocolDirLocalIndex object

The agent MUST assign an appropriate protocolDirLocalIndex value for each application verb, according to the encoding rules defined for this object in [RFC2021] and [RFC2895].

6.2.5. Mapping of the protocolDirDescr object

The agent MUST convey the <verbName> value for a particular application verb in the protocolDirDescr object. This object SHOULD be encoded as

Exhibit A

the protocolDirDescr value for the parent application, appended with a 'dot' character, followed by the exact text contained in the <verbName> field.

6.2.6. Mapping of the protocolDirType object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirType object for each application verb to the value representing the empty bit set ({}).

6.2.7. Mapping of the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object for each application verb to the value 'notSupported(1)'.

6.2.8. Mapping of the protocolDirHostConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirHostConfig object for each application verb present in the protocol directory, according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

6.2.9. Mapping of the protocolDirMatrixConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirMatrixConfig object for each application verb, according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

6.2.10. Mapping of the protocolDirOwner object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in the RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

6.2.11. Mapping of the protocolDirStatus object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in

Exhibit A

RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

7. Implementation Considerations

This section discusses the implementation implications for agents which support verbs in the protocol directory, and the RMON collections which utilize the protocol directory.

7.1. Stateful Protocol Decoding

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB for AL and NL protocols typically require little if any state to be maintained by the probe. The probe can generally decide whether to count a packet and its octets on the packet's own merits, without referencing or updating any state information.

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB at the verb layer will, for many protocols, need to maintain state information in order to correctly classify a packet as "belonging" to one verb or another. The examples below illustrate this point.

For SNMP over UDP, a Response-PDU for an SNMP Get-PDU can't be distinguished from a Response-PDU for a Getnext-PDU. A probe would need to maintain state information in order to correlate a Response-PDU from B to A with a previous request from A to B.

For application protocols carried over a stream-based transport such as TCP, the information required to identify an application verb can span several packets. A probe would need to follow the transport-layer flow in order to correctly parse the application-layer data.

7.2. Packet Capture

For packet capture based on verb-layer protocol directory filtering, the decision to include a packet in the capture buffer may need to be deferred until the packet can be conclusively attributed to a particular verb. A probe may need to pre-buffer packets while deciding to include or exclude them from capture based on other packets that have not yet arrived.

7.3. RMON-2 MIB Collections

Data collections such as the protocol distribution or AL Host Table require that each packet is counted only once, i.e. a given packet is fully classified as a single protocol encapsulation, which resolves to a

Exhibit A

single leaf entry in the protocol directory. Also, octet counters related to protocol classification are incremented by the entire size of packet, not just the octets associated with a particular encapsulation layer.

It is possible that particular application protocols will allow multiple types of verbs to be present in a single packet. In this case, the agent must choose one verb type, and therefore one protocol directory entry, in order to properly count such a packet.

It is an implementation-specific matter as to which verb type an agent selects to identify a packet, in the event more than one verb type is present in that packet. Some possible choices include:

- the first verb type encountered in the packet
- the verb type with the most instances in the packet
- the verb type using the largest number of octets in the packet
- the most 'interesting' verb type in the packet (based on knowledge of that application protocol).

Exhibit A

8. Appendix A: Usage Examples

The following examples are listed to demonstrate how RMON verb identifiers are declared.

[ed. the WG needs to decide if verb macros should be declared in a separate RFC, the way the PI macros are split out from the PI reference document.]

8.1. FTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the File Transfer Protocol, as defined in RFC 959 and updated by RFC 2228 and RFC 2640. Note that verb name strings specified in the <verbName> field are not limited to 4 characters in length. In the FTP protocol, all the command names are 4 characters in length, and the verb name string should match the official command name as closely as possible.

ftp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for FTP is derived from the list of commands defined for the File Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the FTP documentation."

REFERENCE

"File Transfer Protocol, RFC 959, Section 4.1;
FTP Security Extensions, RFC 2228, Section 3;
Internationalization of the File Transfer Protocol,
RFC 2640, Section 4.1."

```
::= {  
    user(1),      -- USER NAME  
    pass(2),      -- PASSWORD  
    acct(3),      -- ACCOUNT  
    cwd(4),        -- CHANGE WORKING DIRECTORY  
    cdup(5),       -- CHANGE TO PARENT DIRECTORY  
    smnt(6),       -- STRUCTURE MOUNT  
    rein(7),       -- REINITIALIZE  
    quit(8),       -- LOGOUT  
    port(9),       -- DATA PORT  
    pasv(10),      -- PASSIVE  
    type(11),      -- REPRESENTATION TYPE  
    stru(12),      -- FILE STRUCTURE  
    mode(13),      -- TRANSFER MODE  
    retr(14),      -- RETRIEVE
```

Exhibit A

Internet Draft

RMON Verb Identifiers

July 2001

```
stor(15),    -- STORE
stou(16),    -- STORE UNIQUE
appe(17),    -- APPEND (with create)
allo(18),    -- ALLOCATE
rest(19),    -- RESTART
rnfr(20),    -- RENAME FROM
rnto(21),    -- RENAME TO
abor(22),    -- ABORT
dele(23),    -- DELETE
rmd(24),     -- REMOVE DIRECTORY
mkd(25),     -- MAKE DIRECTORY
pwd(26),     -- PRINT WORKING DIRECTORY
list(27),    -- LIST
nlst(28),    -- NAME LIST
site(29),    -- SITE PARAMETERS
syst(30),    -- SYSTEM
stat(31),    -- STATUS
help(32),    -- HELP
noop(33),    -- NOOP
auth(34),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY MECHANISM
adat(35),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY DATA
pbsz(36),    -- PROTECTION BUFFER SIZE
prot(37),    -- DATA CHANNEL PROTECTION LEVEL
ccc(38),     -- CLEAR COMMAND CHANNEL
mic(39),     -- INTEGRITY PROTECTED COMMAND
conf(40),    -- CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTED COMMAND
enc(41),     -- PRIVACY PROTECTED COMMAND
lang(42),    -- LANGUAGE
}
```

8.2. POP3 Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Post Office Protocol, Version 3, as defined in RFC 1939 and updated by RFC 2449.

pop3 VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for POP3 is derived from the list of commands defined for the Post Office Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the POP3 command summary."

REFERENCE

"Post Office Protocol, Version 3, RFC 1939, Section 9;

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```
POP3 Extension Mechanism, RFC 2449, Section 5."
::= {
    user(1),
    pass(2),
    quit(3),
    stat(4),
    list(5),
    retr(6),
    dele(7),
    noop(8),
    rset(9),
    apop(10),
    top(11),
    uidl(12),
    capa(13)
}
```

8.3. SNMP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Network Management Protocol, as defined in RFC 1905.

snmp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SNMP is derived from the list of PDU transaction types in the Protocol Operations document for SNMPv2. Note that the 'Response' and 'Report' PDUs are not considered verbs, but are classified as belonging to the transaction type associated with the request PDU."

REFERENCE

"Protocol Operations for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2), RFC 1905, Section 3."

```
::= {
    get(1),
    get-next(2),
    get-bulk(3),
    set(4),
    inform-request(5),
    trap(6)
}
```

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8.4. HTTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, version 1.1, as defined in RFC 2616.

http VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for HTTP is derived from the list of methods defined for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-sensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the HTTP/1.1 documentation. Methods commonly used in HTTP/1.0 are a proper subset of those used in HTTP/1.1. Both versions of the protocol are in current use."

REFERENCE

"Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1, RFC 2616, Section 9; Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.0, RFC 1945, Section 8."

```
:= {
    options(1),
    get(2),
    head(3),
    post(4),
    put(5),
    delete(6),
    trace(7),
    connect(8) -- reserved for future use by HTTP/1.1
}
```

8.5. SMTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol as defined in RFC 2821.

smtp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SMTP is derived from the set of commands defined for the protocol. These commands are identified by case-insensitive strings. Commands are listed in the order found in RFC 2821. The special "xcmd" verb is defined here as a catch-all for private-use commands, which must start with the letter 'X'."

REFERENCE

"Simple Mail Transfer Protocol -- RFC 2821, sections 4.1.1

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```
and 4.1.5."
::= {
    ehlo(1),    -- Extended HELLO (4.1.1.1)
    helo(2),    -- HELLO (4.1.1.1)
    mail(3),    -- MAIL (4.1.1.2)
    rcpt(4),    -- RECIPIENT (4.1.1.3)
    data(5),    -- DATA (4.1.1.4)
    rset(6),    -- RESET (4.1.1.5)
    vrfy(7),    -- VERIFY (4.1.1.6)
    expn(8),    -- EXPAND (4.1.1.7)
    help(9),    -- HELP (4.1.1.8)
    noop(10),   -- NOOP (4.1.1.9)
    quit(11),   -- QUIT (4.1.1.10)
    xcmd(12),   -- Catch-all for private-use "X" commands (4.1.5)
}
```

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10. Acknowledgements

This memo is a product of the RMONMIB WG.

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11. References

[RFC1155]

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12. Security Considerations

This memo defines the structure of a portion of the Remote Monitoring MIB framework, but does not define any MIB objects, protocol operations, or other mechanisms which can potentially introduce new security risks into a managed system.

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9. Intellectual Property Rights

If you think that you, your company, or anyone else owns a patent or other IPR on the work described in the draft, you should read carefully **RFC 3979** [RFC3979]. The first notice required in Internet-Drafts, described in **Section 3** of this document, obligates you to send an IPR disclosure under certain circumstances. Before submitting the draft, it would be a good advice to talk to the working group chair or area directors about it.

10. Further Reading

The IETF process is described in **RFC 2026** [RFC2026]. The IETF rules concerning copyright are described in **RFC 3978** [RFC3978] and **[I-D.ietf-ipr-ietf-trust-update]**. The IETF rules on IPR are described in **RFC 3979** [RFC3979]. RFC 3978 and 3979 are updates to RFC 2026 and obsolete section 10 of that document. This document is for helping authors. If you need the definitive rules, read RFC 2026, RFC 3978 and RFC 3979.

More good references when submitting a document to the IESG for publication as an RFC are the web page on Submitting Internet-Drafts to the IESG (<http://www.ietf.org/ID-Checklist.html>), the RFC Editor's Web pages on how to publish an RFC (<http://www.rfc-editor.org/howtopub.html>), and the Instructions to RFC Authors (**[I-D.rfc-editor-rfc2223bis]**). Henrik Levkowetz has written an excellent tool that checks many of these requirements; it is available at <http://tools.ietf.org/tools/idnits/>.

There are several tools to help the process of writing an Internet-Draft in this format; the RFC Editor has collected several pointers on their web page (<http://www.rfc-editor.org/formatting.html>).

11. References

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>[I-D.ietf-ipr-ietf-trust-update]</p> <p>[I-D.rfc-editor-rfc2223bis]</p> <p>[RFC2026]</p> <p>[RFC3978]</p> <p>[RFC3979]</p> | <p>Bradner, S., "RFC 3978 Update to recognize the IETF Trust," draft-ietf-ipr-ietf-trust-update-03 (work in progress), September 2006.</p> <p>Reynolds, J. and R. Braden, "Instructions to Request for Comments (RFC) Authors," draft-rfc-editor-rfc2223bis-08 (work in progress), July 2004.</p> <p>Bradner, S., "The Internet Standards Process — Revision 3," BCP 9, RFC 2026, October 1996</p> <p>Bradner, S., "IETF Rights in Contributions," BCP 78, RFC 3978, March 2005.</p> <p>Bradner, S., "Intellectual Property Rights in IETF Technology," BCP 79, RFC 3979, March 200</p> |
|--|--|

Appendix A. Change History

Changes from March 25, 2005 version to October 13, 2006 version:

- Relax rules for "document source" part of filename in **Section 7**.
- Updated to reflect changes described in **[I-D.ietf-ipr-ietf-trust-update]**.
- Loosen the "near the end of the document" text for boilerplate in **Section 3**.
- Changed idnits reference to tools.ietf.org

Changes from Feb 8, 2005 version to March 25, 2005 version:

- Update all references from RFCs 3667/3668 to 3978/3979.
- Update IPR boilerplate with words from RFC3978. Add a note that it's not appropriate to change the boilerplate, even if it seems wrong.
- Make it clear in the IPR section that the author is required to disclose IPR under certain circumstances by the 3978/3979 boilerplate.
- Add "Any submission which does not include these statements will be returned to the submitter. The IETF Secretariat will NOT add this text." to the section on Internet-Draft boilerplate too.
- Spell out exactly how drafts are named.
- Remove the option of asking the secretariat for an Internet-Draft name.
- Add the option for an author to un-expire or extend the expiration date of an Internet-Draft.
- Treat Postscript and PDF the same.
- Say "254mm" instead of "10 inches" since we're talking about metric paper sizes.
- Fix minor typos and make some wording changes in the section on Abstracts, making the text closer to 2223bis.
- Include documentation on the I-D deadline and how to check on I-Ds submitted near the deadline.
- Add a pointer to the RFC-Editor's formatting web page.

TOC

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14 July 2000

Remote Monitoring MIB Extensions
for Identifying Application Protocol Verbs

<draft-ietf-rmonmib-appverbs-00.txt>

Status of this Memo

This document is an Internet-Draft and is in full conformance with all provisions of Section 10 of RFC2026 [RFC2026].

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1. Copyright Notice

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2. Abstract

This memo defines an experimental portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it describes the algorithms required to identify protocol operations (verbs) within the protocol encapsulations managed with the Remote Network Monitoring MIB Version 2 [RFC2021].

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4. The SNMP Network Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2571 [RFC2571].
- o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIv1 and described in RFC 1155 [RFC1155], RFC 1212 [RFC1212] and RFC 1215 [RFC1215]. The second version, called SMIv2, is described in RFC 2578 [RFC2578], RFC 2579 [RFC2579] and RFC 2580 [RFC2580].
- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in RFC 1901 [RFC1901] and RFC 1906 [RFC1906]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in RFC 1906 [RFC1906], RFC 2572 [RFC2572] and RFC 2574 [RFC2574].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905 [RFC1905].

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- o A set of fundamental applications described in RFC 2573 [RFC2573] and the view-based access control mechanism described in RFC 2575 [RFC2575].

A more detailed introduction to the current SNMP Management Framework can be found in RFC 2570 [RFC2570].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo does not specify a MIB module.

5. Overview

There is a need for a standardized way of identifying the protocol operations defined for particular application protocols. Different protocol operations can have very different performance characteristics, and it is desirable to collect certain metrics at this level of granularity. This memo defines extensions to the existing protocol identifier structure [RFC2074], and is intended to update, not obsolete, the existing protocol identifier encoding rules.

5.1. Protocol Identifier Framework

The RMON Protocol Identifier (PI) structure [RFC2074] allows for a variable number of layer identifiers. Each layer contributes 4 octets to the protocolDirID OCTET STRING and one octet to the protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING. These two MIB objects comprise the index into the protocolDirTable [RFC2021], and represent a globally unique identifier for a particular protocol encapsulation (or set of encapsulations if the wildcard base layer is used).

5.2. Protocol Identifier Extensions for Application Verbs

The existing RMON protocol identifier architecture requires that an application verb be represented by one additional protocol layer, appended to the protocol identifier for the parent application. Since some application verbs are defined as strings which can exceed 4 octets in length, an integer mapping must be provided for each string. This memo specifies how the verb layer is structured, as well as a verb identifier macro syntax for specification of verb name to integer mappings.

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5.3. Terms

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119. [RFC2119]

This document uses some terms defined in the RMON Protocol Identifier Reference document [PIREF], and some new terms that need introduction here.

5.3.1. Application Verb

Also called simply 'verb'. Refers to one of potentially many protocol operations that are defined by a particular application protocol.

Note that an application verb is not equivalent to an application protocol sub-command or opcode within a packet containing a PDU for the application. An application verb is a transaction type, and may involve several PDU types within the application protocol (e.g., SNMP Get-PDU and Response-PDU). In some applications, a verb may encompass protocol operations pertaining to more than one protocol entry in the protocol directory (e.g., ftp and ftp-data).

5.3.2. Parent Application

One of potentially many protocol encapsulations which identifies a particular application protocol. This term refers generically to any or all such encapsulations for a given set of application verbs.

5.3.3. Verb Layer

The portion of the protocol identifier octet string which identifies the application verb.

5.3.4. Verb Set

The group of verbs enumerated for a particular application protocol. The list of verb strings within a particular verb-identifier macro invocation is also called the verb set for that verb identifier.

5.4. Relationship to the RMON-2 MIB

The RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021] contains the protocolDirTable MIB objects used to identify all protocol encapsulations that can be monitored by a particular RMON agent.

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This memo describes how these MIB objects are mapped by an implementation, for entries which identify application verbs. This document does not define any new MIB objects to identify application verbs.

5.5. Relationship to the RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference

The RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference [PIREF] defines the RMON Protocol Identifier Macro Specification Language, as well as the encoding rules for the ProtocolDirID and protocolDirParameters OCTET STRINGS.

This memo defines extensions to the Protocol Identifier Reference document for the identification of application verb information. It does not obsolete any portion of the Protocol Identifier Reference document.

6. Verb Identifier Macro Format

The following example is meant to introduce the verb-identifier macro. This macro-like construct is used to represent protocol verbs for a specific parent application.

6.1. Lexical Conventions

The following keyword is added to the PI language:

```
VERB-IDENTIFIER
```

6.2. Extended Grammar for the PI Language

The following is the extended BNF notation for the grammar with starting symbol <piFile>, for representing verb identifier macros. Note that only the term <piFile> is actually modified from the definition in [PIREF]. The <piDefinition> syntax is not reproduced here, since this memo is intended to extend that definition, not replace it.

```
-- a file containing one or more Protocol Identifier (PI) definitions
<piFile> = [ <piDefinition> | <piVerbDefinition> ] ...

-- a PI definition
<piVerbDefinition> =
    <parentProtoName> "VERB-IDENTIFIER"
    [ "DESCRIPTION" string
      [ "REFERENCE" string ]
```

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```
"::=" "{" <verbList> "}"

-- a list of verb identifier string
<verbList> = <verbId> [ <wspace> "," <wspace> <verbId> ]...

-- a verb identifier string
<verbId> = <verbName> [<wspace>] "(" [<wspace>]
           <verbEnum> [<wspace>] ")" [<wspace>]

-- a verb name
<verbName> = lname

-- a verb enumeration
<verbEnum> = <posNum>

-- a positive integer
<posNum> = any integer value greater than zero and
           less than 16,777,216

-- <piDefinition> syntax is defined in [PIREF]
-- <wspace> syntax is defined in [PIREF]
-- lname syntax is defined in [PIREF]
```

6.3. Mapping of the Parent Protocol Name

The "parentProtoName" value, called the "parent protocol name" shall be an ASCII string consisting of one up to 64 characters. The encoding rules are exactly as specified in section 6.2.4 of [PIREF], for the mapping of the protocol name field. If a <protoName> and a <parentProtoName> field contain the same value, then they refer to the same protocol.

A protocol identifier macro SHOULD exist in the <piFile> for at least one encapsulation of the parent application protocol, if any verb identifier macros referencing that parent application are present in the <piFile>.

6.4. Mapping of the DESCRIPTION Clause

The DESCRIPTION clause provides a textual description of the protocol verb set identified by this macro. Notice that it SHOULD NOT contain details about items covered by the DECODING and REFERENCE clauses.

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The DESCRIPTION clause MUST be present in all verb-identifier macro declarations.

6.5. Mapping of the REFERENCE Clause

If a publicly available reference document exists for this set of application protocol verbs, it SHOULD be listed here. Typically this will be a URL if possible; if not then it will be the name and address of the controlling body.

The REFERENCE clause is optional, but SHOULD be implemented if an authoritative reference exists which specifies the application protocol verbs defined in the <verbList> section of this macro.

6.6. Mapping of the Verb List Clause

The verb list clause MUST be present, and is used to identify a list of application verb names, and associate a numeric constant with each verb name. At least one verb MUST be specified, and a maximum of 16,777,215 ($2^{24} - 1$) verbs MAY be specified. This enumerated list SHOULD be densely numbered (i.e., valued from '1' to 'N', where 'N' is the total number of verbs defined in the macro).

6.6.1. Mapping of the Verb Name Field

The <verbName> field is case-sensitive, and SHOULD be set to the most appropriate string name for each application verb. If a readable string is defined in an authoritative document, then that exact string SHOULD be used. If no such string exists, then an appropriate but arbitrary string should be selected for this value.

Verb names MUST be unique for a particular parent application.

6.6.2. Mapping of the Verb Enum Field

The <verbEnum> field MUST be unique for all verbs associated with a particular parent application. This field MUST contain a value between '1' and '16,777,215' inclusive.

7. Verb Identifiers in the protocolDirTable

This section describes how the protocolDirTable should be populated for an application verb identified with a verb-identifier macro.

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An agent **MUST** implement all applicable protocolDirTable MIB objects on behalf of each supported application verb.

Expires January 2001

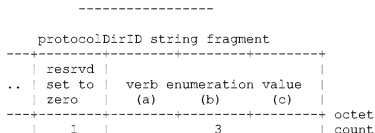
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7.1. Definition of the Verb Layer Numbering Space

The verb layer consists of the 4 octets within the protocolDirID INDEX field which identify a particular application verb.

Figure 1
Verb Layer Format



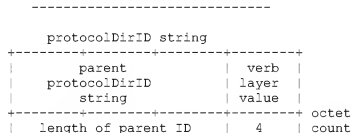
The first octet is a reserved field and MUST be set to zero.

The next three octets identify the <verbEnum> field used to enumerate the particular application verb represented by the <verbName> field. This field is a 24-bit unsigned integer, encoded in network byte order.

7.2. Mapping of the ProtocolDirID object

The protocolDirID OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirID value for the parent application, appended with the verb's layer identifier value.

Figure 2
ProtocolDirID Format for Verbs



The protocolDirID object is encoded as the protocolDirID value of the parent application, followed by four additional octets representing the

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verb layer. The verb layer value is encoded as [0.a.b.c] where 'a' is the high order byte, 'b' is the middle order byte, and 'c' is the low order byte of the <verbEnum> field for the specific application verb value.

7.3. Mapping of the ProtocolDirParameters object

The protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirParameters value for the parent application, appended with one octet containing the value zero.

7.4. Mapping of the ProtocolDirLocalIndex object

The agent MUST assign an appropriate protocolDirLocalIndex value for each application verb, according to the encoding rules defined for this object in [RFC2021] and [PIREF].

7.5. Mapping of the protocolDirDescr object

The agent MUST convey the <verbName> value for a particular application verb in the protocolDirDescr object. This object SHOULD be encoded as the protocolDirDescr value for the parent application, appended with a 'dot' character, followed by the exact text contained in the <verbName> field.

7.6. Mapping of the protocolDirType object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirType object for each application verb to the value representing the empty bit set ({}).

7.7. Mapping of the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object for each application verb to the value 'notSupported(1)'.

7.8. Mapping of the protocolDirHostConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirHostConfig object for each application verb, according to the monitoring capabilities for the parent application. The agent SHOULD set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to

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'supportedOff(3)'.

7.9. Mapping of the protocolDirMatrixConfig object

The agent **MUST** set the protocolDirMatrixConfig object for each application verb, according to the monitoring capabilities for the parent application. The agent **SHOULD** set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object. The agent **MAY** choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

7.10. Mapping of the protocolDirOwner object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in the RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

7.11. Mapping of the protocolDirStatus object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

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8. Appendix A: Usage Examples

The following examples are listed to demonstrate how RMON verb identifiers are declared.

[ed. the WG needs to decide if verb macros should be declared in a separate RFC, the way the PI macros are split out from the PI reference document.]

8.1. FTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the File Transfer Protocol, as defined in RFC 959 and updated by RFC 2228 and RFC 2640. Note that verb name strings specified in the <verbName> field are not limited to 4 characters in length. In the FTP protocol, all the command names are 4 characters in length, and the verb name string should match the official command name as closely as possible.

ftp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for FTP is derived from the list of commands defined for the File Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the FTP documentation."

REFERENCE

"File Transfer Protocol, RFC 959, Section 4.1;
FTP Security Extensions, RFC 2228, Section 3;
Internationalization of the File Transfer Protocol,
RFC 2640, Section 4.1."

```
::= {  
    user(1),      -- USER NAME  
    pass(2),      -- PASSWORD  
    acct(3),      -- ACCOUNT  
    cwd(4),        -- CHANGE WORKING DIRECTORY  
    cdup(5),       -- CHANGE TO PARENT DIRECTORY  
    smnt(6),       -- STRUCTURE MOUNT  
    rein(7),       -- REINITIALIZE  
    quit(8),       -- LOGOUT  
    port(9),       -- DATA PORT  
    pasv(10),      -- PASSIVE  
    type(11),      -- REPRESENTATION TYPE  
    stru(12),      -- FILE STRUCTURE  
    mode(13),      -- TRANSFER MODE  
    retr(14),      -- RETRIEVE
```

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```
stor(15),    -- STORE
stou(16),    -- STORE UNIQUE
appe(17),    -- APPEND (with create)
allo(18),    -- ALLOCATE
rest(19),    -- RESTART
rnfr(20),    -- RENAME FROM
rnto(21),    -- RENAME TO
abor(22),    -- ABORT
dele(23),    -- DELETE
rmd(24),     -- REMOVE DIRECTORY
mkd(25),     -- MAKE DIRECTORY
pwd(26),     -- PRINT WORKING DIRECTORY
list(27),    -- LIST
nlst(28),    -- NAME LIST
site(29),    -- SITE PARAMETERS
syst(30),    -- SYSTEM
stat(31),    -- STATUS
help(32),    -- HELP
noop(33),    -- NOOP
auth(34),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY MECHANISM
adat(35),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY DATA
pbsz(36),    -- PROTECTION BUFFER SIZE
prot(37),    -- DATA CHANNEL PROTECTION LEVEL
ccc(38),     -- CLEAR COMMAND CHANNEL
mic(39),     -- INTEGRITY PROTECTED COMMAND
conf(40),    -- CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTED COMMAND
enc(41),     -- PRIVACY PROTECTED COMMAND
lang(42),    -- LANGUAGE
}
```

8.2. POP3 Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Post Office Protocol, Version 3, as defined in RFC 1939 and updated by RFC 2449.

pop3 VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for POP3 is derived from the list of commands defined for the Post Office Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the POP3 command summary."

REFERENCE

"Post Office Protocol, Version 3, RFC 1939, Section 9;

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RMON Verb Identifiers

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```
POP3 Extension Mechanism, RFC 2449, Section 5."
::= {
    user(1),
    pass(2),
    quit(3),
    stat(4),
    list(5),
    retr(6),
    dele(7),
    noop(8),
    rset(9),
    apop(10),
    top(11),
    uidl(12),
    capa(13)
}
```

8.3. SNMP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Network Management Protocol, as defined in RFC 1905.

snmp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SNMP is derived from the list of PDU transaction types in the Protocol Operations document for SNMPv2. Note that the Response-PDU is not considered a verb, but is classified as belonging to the transaction type associated with the request PDU."

REFERENCE

"Protocol Operations for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2), RFC 1905, Section 3."

```
::= {
    get(1),
    get-next(2),
    get-bulk(3),
    set(4),
    inform(5),
    trap(6),
    report(7)
}
```

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9. Intellectual Property

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The IETF invites any interested party to bring to its attention any copyrights, patents or patent applications, or other proprietary rights which may cover technology that may be required to practice this standard. Please address the information to the IETF Executive Director.

10. Acknowledgements

This memo is a product of the RMONMIB WG.

11. References

[PIREF]

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12. Security Considerations

This memo defines the structure of a portion of the Remote Monitoring MIB framework, but does not define any MIB objects, protocol operations, or other mechanisms which can potentially introduce new security risks into a managed system.

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Internet Draft

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25 November 2000

Remote Monitoring MIB Extensions
for Identifying Application Protocol Verbs

<draft-ietf-rmonmib-appverbs-01.txt>

Status of this Memo

This document is an Internet-Draft and is in full conformance with all provisions of Section 10 of RFC2026 [RFC2026].

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Internet Draft

RMON Verb Identifiers

November 2000

1. Copyright Notice

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2. Abstract

This memo defines an experimental portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it describes the algorithms required to identify protocol operations (verbs) within the protocol encapsulations managed with the Remote Network Monitoring MIB Version 2 [RFC2021].

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4. The SNMP Network Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2571 [RFC2571].
- o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIv1 and described in RFC 1155 [RFC1155], RFC 1212 [RFC1212] and RFC 1215 [RFC1215]. The second version, called SMIv2, is described in RFC 2578 [RFC2578], RFC 2579 [RFC2579] and RFC 2580 [RFC2580].
- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in RFC 1901 [RFC1901] and RFC 1906 [RFC1906]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in RFC 1906 [RFC1906], RFC 2572 [RFC2572] and RFC 2574 [RFC2574].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905 [RFC1905].

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- o A set of fundamental applications described in RFC 2573 [RFC2573] and the view-based access control mechanism described in RFC 2575 [RFC2575].

A more detailed introduction to the current SNMP Management Framework can be found in RFC 2570 [RFC2570].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo does not specify a MIB module.

5. Overview

There is a need for a standardized way of identifying the protocol operations defined for particular application protocols. Different protocol operations can have very different performance characteristics, and it is desirable to collect certain metrics at this level of granularity. This memo defines extensions to the existing protocol identifier structure [RFC2895], and is intended to update, not obsolete, the existing protocol identifier encoding rules.

5.1. Protocol Identifier Framework

The RMON Protocol Identifier (PI) structure [RFC2895] allows for a variable number of layer identifiers. Each layer contributes 4 octets to the protocolDirID OCTET STRING and one octet to the protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING. These two MIB objects comprise the index into the protocolDirTable [RFC2021], and represent a globally unique identifier for a particular protocol encapsulation (or set of encapsulations if the wild-card base layer is used).

5.2. Protocol Identifier Extensions for Application Verbs

The existing RMON protocol identifier architecture requires that an application verb be represented by one additional protocol layer, appended to the protocol identifier for the parent application. Since some application verbs are defined as strings which can exceed 4 octets in length, an integer mapping must be provided for each string. This memo specifies how the verb layer is structured, as well as a verb identifier macro syntax for specification of verb name to integer mappings.

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5.3. Terms

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119. [RFC2119]

This document uses some terms defined in the RMON Protocol Identifier Reference document [RFC2895], and some new terms that need introduction here.

Application Verb

Also called simply 'verb'. Refers to one of potentially many protocol operations that are defined by a particular application protocol.

Note that an application verb is not equivalent to an application protocol sub-command or opcode within a packet containing a PDU for the application. An application verb is a transaction type, and may involve several PDU types within the application protocol (e.g., SNMP Get-PDU and Response-PDU). In some applications, a verb may encompass protocol operations pertaining to more than one protocol entry in the protocol directory (e.g., ftp and ftp-data).

Connect Verb

The special application verb associated with connection or session setup and tear-down traffic, and not attributed to any other verb for the application. This verb is assigned the enumeration value of zero, and the verb 'connect(0)' is implicitly defined for all application protocols.

Parent Application

One of potentially many protocol encapsulations which identifies a particular application protocol. This term refers generically to any or all such encapsulations for a given set of application verbs.

Verb Layer

The portion of the protocol identifier octet string which identifies the application verb.

Verb Set

The group of verbs enumerated for a particular application protocol. The list of verb strings within a particular verb-identifier macro invocation is also called the verb set for that verb identifier.

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5.4. Relationship to the RMON-2 MIB

The RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021] contains the protocolDirTable MIB objects used to identify all protocol encapsulations that can be monitored by a particular RMON agent.

This memo describes how these MIB objects are mapped by an implementation, for entries which identify application verbs. This document does not define any new MIB objects to identify application verbs.

5.5. Relationship to the RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference

The RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference [RFC2895] defines the RMON Protocol Identifier Macro Specification Language, as well as the encoding rules for the ProtocolDirID and protocolDirParameters OCTET STRINGS.

This memo defines extensions to the Protocol Identifier Reference document for the identification of application verb information. It does not obsolete any portion of the Protocol Identifier Reference document.

6. Definitions

6.1. Verb Identifier Macro Format

The following example is meant to introduce the verb-identifier macro. This macro-like construct is used to represent protocol verbs for a specific parent application.

6.1.1. Lexical Conventions

The following keyword is added to the PI language:

VERB-IDENTIFIER

6.1.2. Extended Grammar for the PI Language

The following is the extended BNF notation for the grammar with starting symbol <piFile>, for representing verb identifier macros. Note that only the term <piFile> is actually modified from the definition in [RFC2895]. The <piDefinition> syntax is not reproduced here, since this memo is intended to extend that definition, not replace it.

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```
-- a file containing one or more
-- Protocol Identifier (PI) definitions
<piFile> = [ <piDefinition> | <piVerbDefinition> ]...

-- a PI definition
<piVerbDefinition> =
  <parentProtoName> "VERB-IDENTIFIER"
    "DESCRIPTION" string
    [ "REFERENCE" string ]
    "::-" "{" <verbList> "}"

-- a list of verb identifier string
<verbList> = <verbId> [ <wspace> ", " <wspace> <verbId> ]...

-- a verb identifier string
<verbId> = <verbName> [ <wspace> ] "(" [ <wspace> ]
  <verbEnum> [ <wspace> ] ")" [ <wspace> ]

-- a verb name
<verbName> = lname

-- a verb enumeration
<verbEnum> = <posNum>

-- a positive integer
<posNum> = any integer value greater than zero and
  less than 16,777,216

-- <piDefinition> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- <wspace> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- lname syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
```

6.1.3. Mapping of the Parent Protocol Name

The "parentProtoName" value, called the "parent protocol name" MUST be an ASCII string consisting of 1 to 64 characters. The encoding rules are exactly as specified in section 6.2.4 of [RFC2895], for the mapping of the protocol name field. If a <protoName> and a <parentProtoName> field contain the same value, then they refer to the same protocol.

A protocol identifier macro SHOULD exist in the <piFile> for at least one encapsulation of the parent application protocol, if any verb identifier macros referencing that parent application are present in the

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<piFile>.

6.1.4. Mapping of the DESCRIPTION Clause

The DESCRIPTION clause provides a textual description of the protocol verb set identified by this macro. It SHOULD NOT contain details about items covered by the DECODING and REFERENCE clauses. The DESCRIPTION clause MUST be present in all verb-identifier macro declarations.

6.1.5. Mapping of the REFERENCE Clause

If a publicly available reference document exists for this set of application protocol verbs, it SHOULD be listed here. Typically this will be a URL, otherwise it will be the name and address of the controlling body.

The REFERENCE clause is optional, but SHOULD be implemented if an authoritative reference exists which specifies the application protocol verbs defined in the <verbList> section of this macro.

6.1.6. Mapping of the Verb List Clause

The verb list clause MUST be present, and is used to identify a list of application verb names, and associate a numeric constant with each verb name. At least one verb MUST be specified, and a maximum of 16,777,215 ($2^{24} - 1$) verbs MAY be specified. This enumerated list SHOULD be densely numbered and (i.e. valued from '1' to 'N', where 'N' is the total number of verbs defined in the macro).

6.1.6.1. Mapping of the Verb Name Field

The <verbName> field is case-sensitive, and SHOULD be set to the most appropriate string name for each application verb. If a readable string is defined in an authoritative document, then that string SHOULD be used. If no such string exists, then an appropriate but arbitrary string should be selected for this value.

Verb names MUST be unique for a particular parent application. Note that the special 'connect(0)' verb is implicitly defined for each application protocol. It is possible for an explicit definition of this verb (e.g. 'connect(8)' for http) to exist for a protocol, as well as the implicit 'connect(0)' verb.

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6.1.6.2. Mapping of the Verb Enum Field

The <verbEnum> field MUST be unique for all verbs associated with a particular parent application. This field MUST contain a value between '1' and '16,777,215' inclusive.

6.2. Protocol Directory Requirements

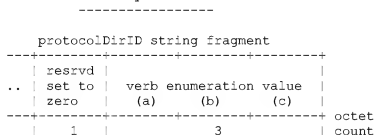
This section defines how the protocolDirTable should be populated for any application verb identified with a verb-identifier macro.

An agent MUST implement all applicable protocolDirTable MIB objects on behalf of each supported application verb.

6.2.1. Mapping of the Verb Layer Numbering Space

The verb layer consists of the 4 octets within the protocolDirID INDEX field which identify a particular application verb.

Figure 1
Verb Layer Format



The first octet is reserved for future use and MUST be set to zero.

The next three octets identify the <verbEnum> field used to enumerate the particular application verb represented by the <verbName> field. This field is a 24-bit unsigned integer, encoded in network byte order.

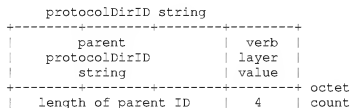
The value zero is reserved to identify the special 'connect(0)' verb. This verb enumeration value (i.e. '0' part of 'connect(0)') MUST NOT be redefined in a verb identifier macro verb list. Note that the verb name 'connect' is not reserved and MAY be redefined in a verb list.

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6.2.2. Mapping of the ProtocolDirID object

The protocolDirID OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirID value for the parent application, appended with the verb's layer identifier value.

Figure 2
ProtocolDirID Format for Verbs



The protocolDirID object is encoded as the protocolDirID value of the parent application, followed by four additional octets representing the verb layer. The verb layer value is encoded as [0.a.b.c] where 'a' is the high order byte, 'b' is the middle order byte, and 'c' is the low order byte of the <verbEnum> field for the specific application verb value. A valid PI verb enumeration will be encoded in the range "0.0.0.0" to "0.255.255.255", where the special value "0.0.0.0" is reserved for the implicitly defined 'connect(0)' verb.

6.2.3. Mapping of the ProtocolDirParameters object

The protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirParameters value for the parent application, appended with one octet containing the value zero.

6.2.4. Mapping of the ProtocolDirLocalIndex object

The agent MUST assign an appropriate protocolDirLocalIndex value for each application verb, according to the encoding rules defined for this object in [RFC2021] and [RFC2895].

6.2.5. Mapping of the protocolDirDescr object

The agent MUST convey the <verbName> value for a particular application verb in the protocolDirDescr object. This object SHOULD be encoded as

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the protocolDirDescr value for the parent application, appended with a 'dot' character, followed by the exact text contained in the <verbName> field.

6.2.6. Mapping of the protocolDirType object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirType object for each application verb to the value representing the empty bit set ({}).

6.2.7. Mapping of the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object for each application verb to the value 'notSupported(1)'.

6.2.8. Mapping of the protocolDirHostConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirHostConfig object for each application verb present in the protocol directory, according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

6.2.9. Mapping of the protocolDirMatrixConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirMatrixConfig object for each application verb, according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)', if the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

6.2.10. Mapping of the protocolDirOwner object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in the RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

6.2.11. Mapping of the protocolDirStatus object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in

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RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

7. Implementation Considerations

This section discusses the implementation implications for agents which support verbs in the protocol directory, and the RMON collections which utilize the protocol directory.

7.1. Stateful Protocol Decoding

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB for AL and NL protocols typically require little if any state to be maintained by the probe. The probe can generally decide whether to count a packet and its octets on the packet's own merits, without referencing or updating any state information.

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB at the verb layer will, for many protocols, need to maintain state information in order to correctly classify a packet as "belonging" to one verb or another. The examples below illustrate this point.

For SNMP over UDP, a Response-PDU for an SNMP Get-PDU can't be distinguished from a Response-PDU for a Getnext-PDU. A probe would need to maintain state information in order to correlate a Response-PDU from B to A with a previous request from A to B.

For application protocols carried over a stream-based transport such as TCP, the information required to identify an application verb can span several packets. A probe would need to follow the transport-layer flow in order to correctly parse the application-layer data.

7.2. Packet Capture

For packet capture based on verb-layer protocol directory filtering, the decision to include a packet in the capture buffer may need to be deferred until the packet can be conclusively attributed to a particular verb. A probe may need to pre-buffer packets while deciding to include or exclude them from capture based on other packets that have not yet arrived.

7.3. RMON-2 MIB Collections

Data collections such as the protocol distribution or AL Host Table require that each packet is counted only once, i.e. a given packet is fully classified as a single protocol encapsulation, which resolves to a

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single leaf entry in the protocol directory. Also, octet counters related to protocol classification are incremented by the entire size of packet, not just the octets associated with a particular encapsulation layer.

It is possible that particular application protocols will allow multiple types of verbs to be present in a single packet. In this case, the agent must choose one verb type, and therefore one protocol directory entry, in order to properly count such a packet.

It is an implementation-specific matter as to which verb type an agent selects to identify a packet, in the event more than one verb type is present in that packet. Some possible choices include:

- the first verb type encountered in the packet
- the verb type with the most instances in the packet
- the verb type using the largest number of octets in the packet
- the most 'interesting' verb type in the packet (based on knowledge of that application protocol).

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8. Appendix A: Usage Examples

The following examples are listed to demonstrate how RMON verb identifiers are declared.

[ed. the WG needs to decide if verb macros should be declared in a separate RFC, the way the PI macros are split out from the PI reference document.]

8.1. FTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the File Transfer Protocol, as defined in RFC 959 and updated by RFC 2228 and RFC 2640. Note that verb name strings specified in the <verbName> field are not limited to 4 characters in length. In the FTP protocol, all the command names are 4 characters in length, and the verb name string should match the official command name as closely as possible.

ftp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for FTP is derived from the list of commands defined for the File Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the FTP documentation."

REFERENCE

"File Transfer Protocol, RFC 959, Section 4.1;
FTP Security Extensions, RFC 2228, Section 3;
Internationalization of the File Transfer Protocol,
RFC 2640, Section 4.1."

```
::= {  
    user(1),      -- USER NAME  
    pass(2),      -- PASSWORD  
    acct(3),      -- ACCOUNT  
    cwd(4),        -- CHANGE WORKING DIRECTORY  
    cdup(5),       -- CHANGE TO PARENT DIRECTORY  
    smnt(6),       -- STRUCTURE MOUNT  
    rein(7),       -- REINITIALIZE  
    quit(8),       -- LOGOUT  
    port(9),       -- DATA PORT  
    pasv(10),      -- PASSIVE  
    type(11),      -- REPRESENTATION TYPE  
    stru(12),      -- FILE STRUCTURE  
    mode(13),      -- TRANSFER MODE  
    retr(14),      -- RETRIEVE
```

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```
stor(15),    -- STORE
stou(16),    -- STORE UNIQUE
appe(17),    -- APPEND (with create)
allo(18),    -- ALLOCATE
rest(19),    -- RESTART
rnfr(20),    -- RENAME FROM
rnto(21),    -- RENAME TO
abor(22),    -- ABORT
dele(23),    -- DELETE
rmd(24),     -- REMOVE DIRECTORY
mkd(25),     -- MAKE DIRECTORY
pwd(26),     -- PRINT WORKING DIRECTORY
list(27),    -- LIST
nlst(28),    -- NAME LIST
site(29),    -- SITE PARAMETERS
syst(30),    -- SYSTEM
stat(31),    -- STATUS
help(32),    -- HELP
noop(33),    -- NOOP
auth(34),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY MECHANISM
adat(35),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY DATA
pbsz(36),    -- PROTECTION BUFFER SIZE
prot(37),    -- DATA CHANNEL PROTECTION LEVEL
ccc(38),     -- CLEAR COMMAND CHANNEL
mic(39),     -- INTEGRITY PROTECTED COMMAND
conf(40),    -- CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTED COMMAND
enc(41),     -- PRIVACY PROTECTED COMMAND
lang(42),    -- LANGUAGE
}
```

8.2. POP3 Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Post Office Protocol, Version 3, as defined in RFC 1939 and updated by RFC 2449.

pop3 VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for POP3 is derived from the list of commands defined for the Post Office Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the POP3 command summary."

REFERENCE

"Post Office Protocol, Version 3, RFC 1939, Section 9;

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```
POP3 Extension Mechanism, RFC 2449, Section 5."
::= {
    user(1),
    pass(2),
    quit(3),
    stat(4),
    list(5),
    retr(6),
    dele(7),
    noop(8),
    rset(9),
    apop(10),
    top(11),
    uidl(12),
    capa(13)
}
```

8.3. SNMP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Network Management Protocol, as defined in RFC 1905.

snmp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SNMP is derived from the list of PDU transaction types in the Protocol Operations document for SNMPv2. Note that the 'Response' and 'Report' PDUs are not considered verbs, but are classified as belonging to the transaction type associated with the request PDU."

REFERENCE

"Protocol Operations for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2), RFC 1905, Section 3."

```
::= {
    get(1),
    get-next(2),
    get-bulk(3),
    set(4),
    inform-request(5),
    trap(6)
}
```

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8.4. HTTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, version 1.1, as defined in RFC 2616.

http VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for HTTP is derived from the list of methods defined for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-sensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the HTTP/1.1 documentation. Methods commonly used in HTTP/1.0 are a proper subset of those used in HTTP/1.1. Both versions of the protocol are in current use."

REFERENCE

"Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1, RFC 2616, Section 9; Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.0, RFC 1945, Section 8."

```
::= {  
    options(1),  
    get(2),  
    head(3),  
    post(4),  
    put(5),  
    delete(6),  
    trace(7),  
    connect(8)  -- reserved for future use by HTTP/1.1  
}
```

9. Intellectual Property

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10. Acknowledgements

This memo is a product of the RMONMIB WG.

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12. Security Considerations

This memo defines the structure of a portion of the Remote Monitoring MIB framework, but does not define any MIB objects, protocol operations, or other mechanisms which can potentially introduce new security risks into a managed system.

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September 2002

Remote Network Monitoring MIB Protocol Identifier Reference Extensions

Status of this Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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Abstract

This memo defines extensions to the Protocol Identifier Reference document for the identification of application verb information. It updates the Protocol Identifier Reference document but does not obsolete any portion of that document. In particular, it describes the algorithms required to identify protocol operations (verbs) within the protocol encapsulations managed with MIBs such as the Remote Network Monitoring MIB Version 2, RFC 2021.

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1. The SNMP Network Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2571 [RFC2571].
- o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIv1 and is described in STD 16, RFC 1155 [RFC1155], STD 16, RFC 1212 [RFC1212] and

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RFC 1215 [RFC1215]. The second version, called SMiv2, is described in STD 58, RFC 2578 [RFC2578], RFC 2579 [RFC2579] and RFC 2580 [RFC2580].

- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and is described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and is described in RFC 1901 [RFC1901] and RFC 1906 [RFC1906]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and is described in RFC 1906 [RFC1906], RFC 2572 [RFC2572] and RFC 2574 [RFC2574].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [RFC1157]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905 [RFC1905].
- o A set of fundamental applications is described in RFC 2573 [RFC2573]. The view-based access control mechanism is described in RFC 2575 [RFC2575].

A more detailed introduction to the current SNMP Management Framework can be found in RFC 2570 [RFC2570].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo does not specify a MIB module.

2. Overview

There is a need for a standardized way of identifying the protocol operations defined for particular application protocols. Different protocol operations can have very different performance characteristics, and it is desirable to collect certain metrics at this level of granularity. This memo defines extensions to the existing protocol identifier structure [RFC2895] and is intended to update, not obsolete, the existing protocol identifier encoding rules.

2.1 Protocol Identifier Framework

The RMON Protocol Identifier (PI) structure [RFC2895] allows for a variable number of layer identifiers. Each layer contributes 4 octets to the protocolDirID OCTET STRING and one octet to the

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protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING. These two MIB objects comprise the index in the protocolDirTable [RFC2021] and represent a globally unique identifier for a particular protocol encapsulation (or set of encapsulations if the wild-card base layer is used).

2.2 Protocol Identifier Extensions for Application Verbs

The existing RMON protocol identifier architecture requires that an application verb be represented by one additional protocol layer, appended to the protocol identifier for the parent application. Since some application verbs are defined as strings which can exceed 4 octets in length, an integer mapping must be provided for each string. This memo specifies how the verb layer is structured, as well as a verb identifier macro syntax for specification of verb name to integer mappings.

2.3 Terms

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

This document uses some terms defined in the RMON Protocol Identifier Reference document [RFC2895] and some new terms that need introduction here.

Application Verb

Also called simply 'verb'. Refers to one of potentially many protocol operations that are defined by a particular application protocol.

Note that an application verb is not equivalent to an application protocol sub-command or opcode within a packet containing a PDU for the application. An application verb is a transaction type and may involve several PDU types within the application protocol (e.g., SNMP Get-PDU and Response-PDU). In some applications, a verb may encompass protocol operations pertaining to more than one protocol entry in the protocol directory (e.g., ftp and ftp-data).

Connect Verb

The special application verb associated with connection or session setup and tear-down traffic, and not attributed to any other verb for the application. This verb is assigned the enumeration value of zero, and the verb 'connect(0)' is implicitly defined for all application protocols.

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Parent Application

One of potentially many protocol encapsulations which identifies a particular application protocol. This term refers generically to any or all such encapsulations for a given set of application verbs.

Verb Layer

The portion of the protocol identifier octet string which identifies the application verb.

Verb Set

The group of verbs enumerated for a particular application protocol. The list of verb strings within a particular verb-identifier macro invocation is also called the verb set for that verb identifier.

2.4 Relationship to the RMON-2 MIB

The RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021] contains the protocolDirTable MIB objects used to identify all protocol encapsulations that can be monitored by a particular RMON agent.

This memo describes how these MIB objects are mapped by an implementation for entries which identify application verbs. This document does not define any new MIB objects to identify application verbs. The applicability of the definitions in this document is not limited to the RMON-2 MIB. Other specifications which utilize the RMON-2 protocolDirTable and/or the protocol identifier macros which it represents can also utilize the application verb macro definitions contained in this document.

2.5 Relationship to the RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference

The RMON MIB Protocol Identifier Reference [RFC2895] defines the RMON Protocol Identifier Macro Specification Language as well as the encoding rules for the ProtocolDirID and protocolDirParameters OCTET STRINGS. This memo defines extensions to the Protocol Identifier Reference for the identification of application verb information. It does not obsolete any portion of the Protocol Identifier Reference document.

3. Definitions

3.1 Verb Identifier Macro Format

The following example is meant to introduce the verb-identifier macro. This macro-like construct is used to represent protocol verbs for a specific parent application.

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3.1.1 Lexical Conventions

The following keyword is added to the PI language:

VERB-IDENTIFIER

3.1.2 Extended Grammar for the PI Language

The following is the extended BNF notation for the grammar with starting symbol <piFile>. It is for representing verb identifier macros. Note that only the term <piFile> is actually modified from the definition in [RFC2895]. The <piDefinition> syntax is not reproduced here, since this memo is intended to extend that definition, not replace it.

```
-- a file containing one or more
-- Protocol Identifier (PI) definitions
<piFile> = [ <piDefinition> | <piVerbDefinition> ]...

-- a PI definition
<piVerbDefinition> =
    [<wspace>] <parentProtoName> <wspace> "VERB-IDENTIFIER"
    <wspace> "DESCRIPTION" <wspace> string
    [ <wspace> "REFERENCE" <wspace> string ]
    [<wspace>] "[:=" [<wspace>]
    "{" [<wspace>] <verbList> [<wspace>] "}" [<wspace>]

-- a list of verb identifier string
<verbList> = <verbId> [ [<wspace>] "," [<wspace>] <verbId> ]...

-- a verb identifier string
<verbId> = <verbName> [<wspace>] "(" [<wspace>]
    <verbEnum> [<wspace>] ")" [<wspace>]

-- a protocol name
<parentProtoName> = <protoName>

-- a verb name
<verbName> = <lname>

-- a verb enumeration
<verbEnum> = <posNum>

-- a positive integer
<posNum> = any integer value greater than zero and
    less than 16,777,216

-- <piDefinition> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
```

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```
-- <protoName> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- <wspace> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
-- <lname> syntax is defined in [RFC2895]
```

3.1.3 Mapping of the Parent Protocol Name

The "parentProtoName" value, called the "parent protocol name", SHOULD be an ASCII string consisting of 1 to 64 characters. (These names are intended to appear in IETF documentation, so the use of UTF-8 is not appropriate.) The encoding rules are exactly as specified in section 6.2.4 of [RFC2895] for the mapping of the protocol name field. The value for <parentProtoName> (which is called the "parent protocol name") MUST be the value of a protocol identifier defined as specified for <protoName> in section 3.2.4 of [RFC2895]. The value of <parentProtoName> MUST specify a <protoName> defined in the <piFile>.

A protocol identifier macro SHOULD exist in the <piFile> for at least one encapsulation of the parent application protocol if any verb identifier macros referencing that parent application are present in the <piFile>.

3.1.4 Mapping of the DESCRIPTION Clause

The DESCRIPTION clause provides a textual description of the protocol verb set identified by this macro. It SHOULD NOT contain details about items covered by the REFERENCE clause. The DESCRIPTION clause MUST be present in all verb-identifier macro declarations.

3.1.5 Mapping of the REFERENCE Clause

If a publicly available reference document exists for this set of application protocol verbs, it SHOULD be listed here. Typically this will be a URL, otherwise it will be the name and address of the controlling body.

The REFERENCE clause is optional but SHOULD be present if an authoritative reference exists which specifies the application protocol verbs defined in the <verbList> section of this macro.

3.1.6 Mapping of the Verb List Clause

The verb list clause MUST be present. It is used to identify a list of application verb names and associate a numeric constant with each verb name. At least one verb MUST be specified and a maximum of 16,777,215 ($2^{24} - 1$) verbs MAY be specified. This enumerated list SHOULD be densely numbered (i.e., valued from '1' to 'N', where 'N' is the total number of verbs defined in the macro).

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3.1.6.1 Mapping of the Verb Name Field

The <verbName> field is case-sensitive and SHOULD be set to the most appropriate string name for each application verb. If such a descriptive string is defined in an authoritative document then that string SHOULD be used. If no such string exists then an appropriate but arbitrary string should be selected for this value.

Verb names MUST be unique for a particular parent application. Note that the special 'connect(0)' verb is implicitly defined for each application protocol. It is possible for an explicit definition of this verb (e.g., 'connect(8)' for http) to exist for a protocol, as well as the implicit 'connect(0)' verb.

3.1.6.2 Mapping of the Verb Enum Field

The <verbEnum> field MUST be unique for all verbs associated with a particular parent application. This field SHOULD contain a value between '1' and '16,777,215' inclusive.

3.2 Protocol Directory Requirements

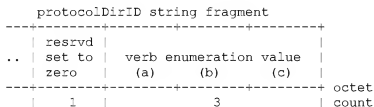
This section defines how the protocolDirTable should be populated for any application verb identified with a verb-identifier macro.

An agent MUST implement all applicable protocolDirTable MIB objects on behalf of each supported application verb.

3.2.1 Mapping of the Verb Layer Numbering Space

The verb layer consists of the 4 octets within the protocolDirID INDEX field which identify a particular application verb.

Figure 1
Verb Layer Format



The first octet is reserved for future use and MUST be set to zero.

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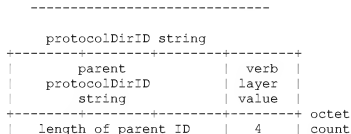
The next three octets identify the <verbEnum> field used to enumerate the particular application verb represented by the <verbName> field. This field is a 24-bit unsigned integer, encoded in network byte order.

The value zero is reserved to identify the special 'connect(0)' verb. This verb enumeration value (i.e., '0' part of 'connect(0)') MUST NOT be redefined in a verb identifier macro verb list. Note that the verb name 'connect' is not reserved and MAY be redefined in a verb list.

3.2.2 Mapping of the ProtocolDirID object

The protocolDirID OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirID value for the parent application, appended with the verb's layer identifier value.

Figure 2
ProtocolDirID Format for Verbs



The protocolDirID object is encoded as the protocolDirID value of the parent application, followed by four additional octets representing the verb layer. The verb layer value is encoded as [0.a.b.c] where 'a' is the high order byte, 'b' is the middle order byte, and 'c' is the low order byte of the <verbEnum> field for the specific application verb value. A valid PI verb enumeration will be encoded in the range "0.0.0.0" to "0.255.255.255", where the special value "0.0.0.0" is reserved for the implicitly defined 'connect(0)' verb.

3.2.3 Mapping of the ProtocolDirParameters object

The protocolDirParameters OCTET STRING value for a particular application verb is represented by the protocolDirParameters value for the parent application, appended with one octet containing the value zero. Although not actually used, this field is included to conform to the encoding rules defined in the Protocol Identifiers Reference [RFC2895].

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3.2.4 Mapping of the ProtocolDirLocalIndex object

The agent MUST assign an appropriate protocolDirLocalIndex value for each application verb according to the encoding rules defined for this object in [RFC2021] and [RFC2895].

3.2.5 Mapping of the protocolDirDescr object

The agent MUST convey the <verbName> value for a particular application verb in the protocolDirDescr object. This object SHOULD be encoded as the protocolDirDescr value for the parent application appended with a 'dot' character, followed by the exact text contained in the <verbName> field.

3.2.6 Mapping of the protocolDirType object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirType object for each application verb to the value representing the empty bit set ({}).

3.2.7 Mapping of the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirAddressMapConfig object for each application verb to the value 'notSupported(1)'.

3.2.8 Mapping of the protocolDirHostConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirHostConfig object for each application verb present in the protocol directory according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)' if the parent application protocolDirHostConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

3.2.9 Mapping of the protocolDirMatrixConfig object

The agent MUST set the protocolDirMatrixConfig object for each application verb according to the monitoring capabilities for each verb. The agent MAY set this object to the same value as configured in the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object. The agent MAY choose to transition this object from the value 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)' if the parent application protocolDirMatrixConfig object first transitions from 'supportedOn(2)' to 'supportedOff(3)'.

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3.2.10 Mapping of the protocolDirOwner object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in the RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

3.2.11 Mapping of the protocolDirStatus object

This object is encoded exactly the same for application verbs as for other protocolDirTable entries, according to the rules specified in RMON-2 MIB [RFC2021].

4. Implementation Considerations

This section discusses the implementation implications for agents which support verbs in the protocol directory and the RMON collections which utilize the protocol directory.

4.1 Stateful Protocol Decoding

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB for application layer and network layer protocols typically require little if any state to be maintained by the probe. The probe can generally decide whether to count a packet and its octets on the packet's own merits, without referencing or updating any state information.

Implementations of the RMON-2 MIB at the verb layer will, for many protocols, need to maintain state information in order to correctly classify a packet as "belonging" to one verb or another. The examples below illustrate this point.

For SNMP over UDP, a Response-PDU for an SNMP Get-PDU can't be distinguished from a Response-PDU for a Getnext-PDU. A probe would need to maintain state information in order to correlate a Response-PDU from B to A with a previous request from A to B.

For application protocols carried over a stream-based transport such as TCP, the information required to identify an application verb can span several packets. A probe would need to follow the transport-layer flow in order to correctly parse the application-layer data.

4.2 Packet Capture

For packet capture based on verb-layer protocol directory filtering, the decision to include a packet in the capture buffer may need to be deferred until the packet can be conclusively attributed to a

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particular verb. A probe may need to pre-buffer packets while deciding to include or exclude them from capture based on other packets that have not yet arrived.

4.3 RMON-2 MIB Collections

Data collections such as the protocol distribution or Application Layer Host Table (alHostTable) require that each packet is counted only once, i.e., a given packet is fully classified as a single protocol encapsulation which resolves to a single leaf entry in the protocol directory. Also, octet counters related to protocol classification are incremented by the entire size of packet, not just the octets associated with a particular encapsulation layer.

It is possible that particular application protocols will allow multiple types of verbs to be present in a single packet. In this case, the agent **MUST** choose one verb type, and therefore one protocol directory entry, in order to properly count such a packet.

It is an implementation-specific matter as to which verb type an agent selects to identify a packet in the event more than one verb type is present in that packet. Some possible choices include:

- the first verb type encountered in the packet
- the verb type with the most instances in the packet
- the verb type using the largest number of octets in the packet
- the most 'interesting' verb type in the packet (based on knowledge of that application protocol).

5. Intellectual Property

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6. Acknowledgements

This memo is a product of the RMONMIB WG.

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9. IANA Considerations

At this time there are no application protocol verbs defined that require IANA registration, similar to the 'ianaAssigned' protocol identifiers found in RFC 2895. It is remotely possible that a future version of this document will contain application verb definitions which require assignment in the 'ianaAssigned' protocol identifier subtree.

10. Security Considerations

This memo defines the structure of a portion of the Remote Monitoring MIB framework, but does not define any MIB objects or protocol operations. Instead, it defines algorithms for representing application protocol verbs in RMON Protocol Identifiers. It does not introduce any new security risks into a managed system.

However, if an MIB collection is designed which utilizes this type of Protocol Identifier, then such a collection may expose which verbs in an application protocol are used in a network. Inclusion of this additional information may require more consideration for protection. MIB writers should address such considerations.

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Appendix A: Usage Examples

The following examples are listed to demonstrate how RMON verb identifiers are declared.

A.1 FTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the File Transfer Protocol as defined in RFC 959 and updated by RFC 2228 and RFC 2640. Note that verb name strings specified in the <verbName> field are not limited to 4 characters in length. In the FTP protocol, all the command names are 4 characters in length and the verb name string should match the official command name as closely as possible.

ftp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for FTP is derived from the list of commands defined for the File Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the FTP documentation."

REFERENCE

"File Transfer Protocol, RFC 959, Section 4.1;
FTP Security Extensions, RFC 2228, Section 3;
Internationalization of the File Transfer Protocol,
RFC 2640, Section 4.1."

::= {

user(1),	-- USER NAME
pass(2),	-- PASSWORD
acct(3),	-- ACCOUNT
cwd(4),	-- CHANGE WORKING DIRECTORY
cdup(5),	-- CHANGE TO PARENT DIRECTORY
smnt(6),	-- STRUCTURE MOUNT
rein(7),	-- REINITIALIZE
quit(8),	-- LOGOUT
port(9),	-- DATA PORT
pasv(10),	-- PASSIVE
type(11),	-- REPRESENTATION TYPE
stru(12),	-- FILE STRUCTURE
mode(13),	-- TRANSFER MODE
retr(14),	-- RETRIEVE
stor(15),	-- STORE
stou(16),	-- STORE UNIQUE
appe(17),	-- APPEND (with create)
allo(18),	-- ALLOCATE
rest(19),	-- RESTART
rnfr(20),	-- RENAME FROM
rnfo(21),	-- RENAME TO

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```
    abor(22),    -- ABORT
    dele(23),    -- DELETE
    rmd(24),     -- REMOVE DIRECTORY
    mkd(25),     -- MAKE DIRECTORY
    pwd(26),     -- PRINT WORKING DIRECTORY
    list(27),    -- LIST
    nlst(28),    -- NAME LIST
    site(29),    -- SITE PARAMETERS
    syst(30),    -- SYSTEM
    stat(31),    -- STATUS
    help(32),    -- HELP
    noop(33),    -- NOOP
    auth(34),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY MECHANISM
    adat(35),    -- AUTHENTICATION/SECURITY DATA
    pbsz(36),    -- PROTECTION BUFFER SIZE
    prot(37),    -- DATA CHANNEL PROTECTION LEVEL
    ccc(38),     -- CLEAR COMMAND CHANNEL
    mic(39),     -- INTEGRITY PROTECTED COMMAND
    conf(40),    -- CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTED COMMAND
    enc(41),     -- PRIVACY PROTECTED COMMAND
    lang(42),    -- LANGUAGE
}
```

A.2 POP3 Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Post Office Protocol, Version 3, as defined in RFC 1939 and updated by RFC 2449.

pop3 VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for POP3 is derived from the list of commands defined for the Post Office Protocol, which are identified by case-insensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the POP3 command summary."

REFERENCE

"Post Office Protocol, Version 3, RFC 1939, Section 9;
POP3 Extension Mechanism, RFC 2449, Section 5."

```
::= {
    user(1),
    pass(2),
    quit(3),
    stat(4),
    list(5),
    retr(6),
    dele(7),
    noop(8),
    rset(9),
```

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```
        apop(10),
        top(11),
        uidl(12),
        capa(13)
    }
```

A.3 SNMP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Network Management Protocol, as defined in RFC 1905.

snmp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SNMP is derived from the list of PDU transaction types in the Protocol Operations document for SNMPv2. Note that the 'Response' and 'Report' PDUs are not considered verbs, but are classified as belonging to the transaction type associated with the request PDU."

REFERENCE

"Protocol Operations for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2), RFC 1905, Section 3."

```
::= {
    get(1),
    get-next(2),
    get-bulk(3),
    set(4),
    inform-request(5),
    trap(6)
}
```

A.4 HTTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, version 1.1, as defined in RFC 2616.

http VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for HTTP is derived from the list of methods defined for the Hypertext Transfer Protocol, which are identified by case-sensitive strings. The commands are simply listed in the order found in the HTTP/1.1 documentation. Methods commonly used in HTTP/1.0 are a proper subset of those used in HTTP/1.1. Both versions of the protocol are in current use."

REFERENCE

"Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1, RFC 2616,

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```
Section 9; Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.0, RFC
1945, Section 8."
::= {
    options(1),
    get(2),
    head(3),
    post(4),
    put(5),
    delete(6),
    trace(7),
    connect(8) -- reserved for future use by HTTP/1.1
}
```

A.5 SMTP Example

This example defines verb enumeration values for the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol as defined in RFC 2821.

smtp VERB-IDENTIFIER

DESCRIPTION

"The set of verbs for SMTP is derived from the set of commands defined for the protocol. These commands are identified by case-insensitive strings. Commands are listed in the order found in RFC 2821. The special "xcmd" verb is defined here as a catch-all for private-use commands, which must start with the letter 'X'."

REFERENCE

"Simple Mail Transfer Protocol -- RFC 2821, sections 4.1.1 and 4.1.5."

```
::= {
    ehlo(1), -- Extended HELLO (4.1.1.1)
    helo(2), -- HELLO (4.1.1.1)
    mail(3), -- MAIL (4.1.1.2)
    rcpt(4), -- RECIPIENT (4.1.1.3)
    data(5), -- DATA (4.1.1.4)
    rset(6), -- RESET (4.1.1.5)
    vrfy(7), -- VERIFY (4.1.1.6)
    expn(8), -- EXPAND (4.1.1.7)
    help(9), -- HELP (4.1.1.8)
    noop(10), -- NOOP (4.1.1.9)
    quit(11), -- QUIT (4.1.1.10)
    xcmd(12) -- Catch-all for private-use "X" commands (4.1.5)
}
```

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